Industrial approval for manufacture of Main Automatic Exchange; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF P.J. KURIEN): (a) and (b). One application had been received from the Orissa State Electronics Development Corporation during October, 1989, for the manufacture of Main Automatic Exchange. However, after due consideration the application was rejected in December, 1989.

Under the New Industrial Policy announced on 24th July, 1991, this item does not require an industrial licence.

Review of quota of Foodgrains

4315. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received a suggestion from the Prime Minister to take a review of the existing quota of foodgrains and its distribution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the special measures taken or proposed to be taken for proper distribution of foodgrains in hilly, backward and drought prone areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). Allocations of foodgrains to States/U.T. - Administrations are made on a month to month basis considering factors like availability of stocks in the Central Pool, inter-se demands of various states, seasonal factors etc. The Central Government makes allocation of foodgrains (rice and wheat) to state Governments and U.T. Administrations as a whole. The question of strengthening and streamlining of Public Distribution systems (PDS) was discussed at the 13th meeting of the Advisory Council on PDS held in August, 1991 under the chairmanship of Prime Minister, and in the Chief Ministers' Conference held in October, 1991. It was decided to adopt an area approach to improve the reach of the PDS to areas covered under various Development Programmes, viz. Desert Development Programme (DDP), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), certain Designated Hill Areas (DHA) and Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDP). The areas have been identified in consultation with the State Government. State Govts. have been requested to ensure availability and effective reach of essential commodities to the people living in these ares.

Usage of Fire Safety Measures in Public Premises

4316. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received reports from Central Building Research Institute, Rookee on the usage of various fire safety measures in public premises;

(b) whether the Central Building Research Institute has also conducted tests of various kinds of fire protection doors and windows fo both foreign and Indian ongin;

(c) whether the Central Building Research Institute has not been persuaded to call for improved technology for manufacturing various fire protection doors and windows as Indian products are found to be deficient;

(d) whether some proposals have been